

**Listing of Claims:**

1. (canceled)
2. (currently amended) A method for training at least one learning-capable system comprising the steps of:

providing a predetermined training data set corresponding to input data for each of a respective predetermined number of subjects comprising a predetermined input data set and a predetermined outcome data set,

augmenting the input data set and/or the outcome data set according to predetermined criteria, and

training each learning-capable system using the augmented input data set and/or the augmented outcome data set, through the use of a computing device,

~~Method according to claim 1,~~ wherein the augmenting step comprises the steps:

estimating propensity score data for each said subject depending on ~~it's~~ the corresponding input data,

dividing the propensity score data into at least two strata,

assigning each subject to a stratum according to predetermined criteria, and

augmenting the input data of each subject by its propensity score data and/or its stratum data assignment.

3. (currently amended) The method ~~Method~~ according to claim 2, wherein the training step comprises the step of optimizing ~~the~~ operating point parameters ~~for~~ within each stratum.
4. (currently amended) The method ~~Method~~ according to claim 3, wherein the operating point parameters are optimized such that the median of all output data of users assigned to ~~vanishes for~~ each stratum vanishes.
5. (currently amended) The method ~~Method~~ according to claim ~~[[1]]~~ 2, wherein the augmenting step comprises the step of:  
  
generating a plurality of augmented training data sets by augmenting the input data set using a predetermined statistical model.
6. (currently amended) A method of ~~Method according to claim 5~~ for training at least two learning-capable systems according to the method of claim 5, wherein the training step comprises the steps of:  
  
training each learning-capable system using a subset of the plurality of augmented training data sets,  
  
constructing scores for each outcome for each trained learning-capable system, and  
  
determining characteristics of ~~the~~ distributions of the scores for each subject.
7. (currently amended) The method ~~Method~~ according to claim 6, wherein the input data set is augmented using a generalized Markov chain Monte-Carlo method.
8. (currently amended) The method ~~Method~~ according to claim ~~[[1]]~~ 2, wherein the augmenting step comprises the steps of:

providing a further learning capable-system and a further predetermined training data set comprising a further predetermined input data set and a further predetermined outcome data set for each of a respective further predetermined number of subjects,

training the further learning-capable system using the further predetermined training data set, and

augmenting the input data set by at least one additional input variable taken from the further predetermined input data set, further predetermined outcome data set and/or internal output data obtained from the trained further learning-capable system.

9. (currently amended) The method ~~Method~~ according to claim 8, wherein the additional input variables comprise all further input data and all further outcome data of a subset of subjects of the further training data set.
10. (currently amended) The method ~~Method~~ according to claim [[1]] 2, wherein the outcome data of the training data set is time-dependent and the augmenting step comprises pre-transforming ~~the a~~ a time variable of the training data set in such a way that ~~the an associated~~ an associated hazard rate with respect to a predetermined outcome is a predetermined function of the time variable.
11. (currently amended) A method ~~Method~~ for using a learning-capable system trained according to the method of claim [[1]] 2 ~~using the~~ by applying input data of a subject to generate an outcome of the learning-capable system, characterized in that further comprising correcting the outcome ~~is corrected~~ with respect to a predetermined reference subject.

12. (currently amended) The method ~~Method~~ for using at least two learning-capable systems trained according to the method of claim 7 ~~using the~~ by applying input data of a subject to generate output data of the learning-capable systems, comprising the steps of:

presenting the input data of the subject to each of the learning-capable systems and

constructing a score for the output data obtained from the learning-capable systems.

13. (currently amended) A method ~~Method to create~~ of creating a composite training data set, in particular for use in training a learning-capable system according to the method of claim ~~[[1]]~~ 2, comprising the steps of:

providing an aggregated evidence data set,

disaggregating the aggregated evidence data set to obtain a disaggregated training data set ~~with~~ based on virtual subjects, and

merging the disaggregated training data set with a further training data set to produce the predetermined training data set.

14. (currently amended) The method ~~Method~~ according to claim 13, wherein the merging step comprises the step of choosing a real training data set based on real subjects as the further training data set.

15. (currently amended) The method ~~Method~~ according to claim 13, wherein the disaggregation step comprises the step of assigning at least a value of one auxiliary

variable to each virtual subject of the disaggregated training data set according to predetermined criteria.

16. (currently amended) The method ~~Method~~ according to claim [[1]] 2, wherein the predetermined training data set is provided by:

providing an aggregated evidence data set,

disaggregating the aggregated evidence data set to obtain a disaggregated training data set ~~with~~ based on virtual subjects, and

merging the disaggregated training data set with a further training data set to produce the predetermined training data set.

17. (currently amended) A computer program product directly loadable into the internal memory of a digital computer, comprising software code portions for performing the steps of the method of claim [[1]] 2, when said product is run on a computer.
18. (currently amended) A computer program product stored on a medium readable by a computer, comprising computer readable program means for causing a computer to perform the steps of the method of claim [[1]] 2, when said product is run on a computer.
19. (currently amended) The method ~~Method~~ according to claim 5, wherein the input data set is augmented using a generalized Markov chain Monte-Carlo method.

20. (currently amended) The method ~~Method~~ according to claim 14, wherein the disaggregation step comprises the step of assigning at least a value of one auxiliary variable to each virtual subject of the disaggregated training data set.